

TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 10703/025
Serial No. 10/608,043	Filing Date June 27, 2003	Examiner Unknown	Group Art Unit 3731
Inventor(s) Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.			
Title of Invention INTRODUCER SHEATH			

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

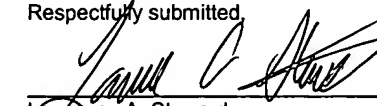
Transmitted herewith is **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☐ Petition for a _____ month extension of time.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity		or	Other Than Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee		Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$9=			x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus			x 43=			x \$86=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$145=			+\$290=	
					Total add'l fee	\$		Total add'l fee	\$

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$_____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence A. Steward
Registration No. 32,309
Attorney for Applicants
Customer No. Choose Customer No.

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
One Indiana Square, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 636-0886

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 5, 2003.

Date: 11/5/03 Signature: Carolyn Beason-Wright
Carolyn Beason-Wright



Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on November 5, 2003

Carolyn Beason-Wright
Carolyn Beason-Wright

Our Case No.: 10703/025

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.

Serial No.: 10/608,043

Filing Date: June 27, 2003

For: INTRODUCER SHEATH

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit No.: 3731

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

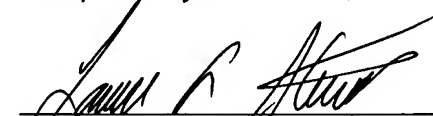
Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence A. Steward
Registration No. 32,309
Attorney for Applicants

LAS/cbw

Attachments: Form PTO/SB/08A
 Form PTO/SB/08B
 Copy of References

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
One Indiana Square, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 636-0886



Please print name (+) inside this box →



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/608,043	
			Filing Date	June 27, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.	
			Group Art Unit	3731	
			Examiner Name	Unknown	
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	10703/025

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	3,693,624		Shiley et al.	09/26/1972	
	2	4,364,391		Toye	12/21/1982	
	3	4,471,778		Toye	09/18/1984	
	4	4,596,559		Fleischhacker	06/24/1986	
	5	5,042,475		LaBombard	08/27/1991	
	6	5,058,580		Hazard	10/22/1991	
	7	5,098,392		Fleischhacker et al.	03/24/1992	
	8	5,141,497		Erskine	08/25/1992	
	9	5,167,634		Corrigan, Jr. et al.	12/01/1992	
	10	5,183,464		Dubrul et al.	02/02/1993	
	11	5,222,487		Carr et al.	06/29/1993	
	12	5,250,033		Evans et al.	10/05/1993	
	13	5,431,676		Dubrul et al.	07/11/1995	
	14	5,489,273		Whitney et al.	02/06/1996	
	15	5,814,058		Carlson et al.	09/29/1998	
	16	5,862,801		Wells	01/26/1999	
	17	5,928,198		Lester	07/27/1999	
	18	6,080,174		Dubrul et al.	06/27/2000	
	19	6,325,812	B1	Dubrul et al.	12/04/2001	
	20	2001/0039430	A1	Dubrul et al.	11/08/2001	
	21	2001/0049499	A1	Lui et al.	12/06/2001	
	22	2003/0023259	A1	Dubrul et al.	01/30/2003	

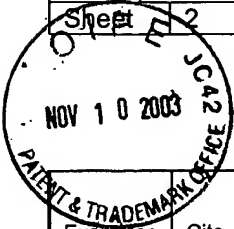
EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	
-------------------------------	--	----------------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Completing if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/608,043
		Filing Date	June 27, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet 2 of 3	Attorney Docket Number	10703/025	



FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

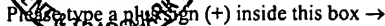
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	23	WO	01/32257	A1	SCIMED Life Systems, Inc.	05/10/2001		N

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
-----------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



PTO/SB/08B (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**